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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1915

For President LAWRENCE Y. SHERMAN of Illinois

SUPREME COURT RENDERS DECISION

Continued from page one) is equally fatal to the act as direct statement of non compliance would be. Third, those which hold that such enrolled act is not conclusive, and that the journals may be examined for certain purposes, but that a failure of the journals to show a full compliance with the constitutional requirements in regard to the modes of passage of the acts, will not cause the act to be held unconstitutional, and that this will only be done where the entries on the journal offirmatively show that the act has not been constitutionally passed: Fourth, de cisions which do not rest upon general rules or principles, but set up as a basis the peculiar or special language of the constitution under consideration. LeLouch v. New ton, 134 Ga., 739; 68 S. E. 708, 20 Ann. Cas. 342: Included in the less class are thuse cases which hold that a failure to show on the jourusl compliance with a constitutional requirement does not invalidate the set, unless the constitution directs that such compliance must be en-

tered on the journal

As to whether the courts will, or will not, lock behind the properly authenticated set to the journal for the purpose of ascertaining that all the constitutional provisions relative to its engetment have been complied with, it may be stated that the courts are approximately equally divided; but public policy, reason and logic and the modern trend of authority all support the pose and form of our government, between the various departments thereof. Our constitution, and in fact the constitution of the United States and of each of the states. have provided for three granches of government, all of equal dignity and power within their proper spheres, and each independent of the other. Certain duties of enacting such laws as are deemed calculated to promote the prosperity and happiness of the people and provids for the general weitare. The judic ial department is created and endowed with the power to construe and interpret laws and administer justice, between state and citizen, It is true that this departm nt determines whether an government may interpret the act of the legislature conflicts with fundamental law as to the method the fundamental law of the state of procedure

THE OUTLOOK but this is a matter entirely foreign to the enactment of the law. The executive executes the laws, and performs certain duties which the constitution and law impose upon it, and sets independently of either of the other departments. The officers of each department, except in certain instances, are answerable only to the people. The constitution has conferred upon each certrip broad powers, and has prescribed the matter in which those powers shall be exercised. The mandates thus given must be held to be directed only to the officers exercising the powers conferredupon whom rests the responsibility of seeing that their acts comply with such requirements, unless some one of the departments of government has been created with superior powers and prerogatives and given a supervisory control over the other supposedly equal and independent departments of gevernment.

Section I of Art. II of the Cousti tution expressly prohibits the exercise by one of the departments of government of powers belonging to another department, "except as in this constitution expressly directed or permitted," and no express grant of power is given to the judiciary to supervise the acts and conduct of the legislature in the passage of a legislative act.

In our constitution the judiciat

department is given certain broad powers and the jurisdiction of the various courts is defined. In certain contingencies the supreme court is authorized to call in a distriet judge to sit in place of one of the regular judges of the court. No one would contend that either of the other departments of government would have the right to ques tion a judgment of the court, upon the ground that it did not have the right to call in a district who might have participated in the opinion. Could the legislature, by an act, disapprove of a judgment of the supreme court, on the ground that some procedure prescribed by the constitution had not been complied with? The governor is given the right to acc in a certain way upon his finding that certain facts exist. Could either of the other depart ments legally call in question his finding that certain facts exists Could either of the other depart. ments legally call in question his set, upon the ground that he had erroneously determined the facts upon which his action was predica ted? . The very statement of the assumption of the right of either of the departments to question the acts and judgments of the judiciary hold otherwise lose sight of the puris so shocking to the mind, that it proposition that the jud.coal depart plying therewith. The officers of ment has the power to go behind the legislative department in this the duly and properly authenticated acts of the legislature to see whether there has been compliance with constitutional directions as to its method of procedure If that proposition were correct, then the three branches of our government judges. But it is contended, that if are not equal and co ordinate, as generally supposed; but the judicial branch of the government is paramount to each of the others and is invested with the power and charged with the duty of exercising a supervisory control over both the other departments of government. and of seeing to it that such departments act and perform their funcsitizen and citizen, or citizen and tions, not according to their inter stranger. It has no power to inter- pretations of the constitutional fere, nor is it concerned, with the mode of doing the set undertaken, enactment of laws by the legislative but as the judicial branch of the

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consistent with the equality and independence of the three departments of government is, that such constitutional provisions are directed to them severally, and that upon the department to which the provision is directed rests the reponsibility state are selected in the same man. ner and are answerable to the same power as the judiciary. The people are as well able to choose honest and capable law makers as they are to choose upright and righteous these constitutional provisions are not applied and enforced by the courts, that it will be possible for the officers of the assembly and the governor to enact laws without the concurrence of the members of the legislature. The answer to this contention is plain. Power must be reposed upon someone, and the reposing of such power in the officers named is greatly to be preferred to placing in the hands of the clerk of either the house or the scoate, the unlimited and arbitrary power of unmaking a law, which might have recieved the unanimous approval of every member of each house; or to

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